

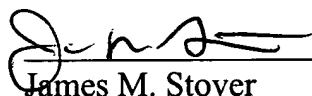
REMARKS

The Official Action dated July 5, 2006, has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in response thereto. Claims 1 through 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. It was stated in the Official Action that the body of independent claims 1, 4, 6 and 10 do not appear to support the preamble of those claim by including a step or steps which accomplish the act of clustering a string.

The foregoing amendment presents changes to claims 1, 4, 6 and 10 to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. As amended, each one of independent claims 1, 4, 6 and 10 includes steps that recite clustering of a string.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that the application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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